

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 1180

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, BU (SLAVKOV, IVAN AND TOMOV, TOMA)

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: IVP GRANTEES TOMA TOMOV AND IVAN SLAVKOV

STATE FOR CU/EE

USIA FOR IEE AND IMV

REF: STATE 149764

1. EMBASSY CONCURS EXTENSION TOMOV'S IVP GRANT SO HE CAN ACCOMPANY SLAVKOV SINCE LATTER ANXIOUS TO HAVE TOMOV WITH HIM. THIS IS ONE REASON HE DID NOT FEEL NEED FOR INTERPRETER/GUIDE.

2. UNELSS DEPARTMENT PLANS TO ARRANGE SPECIAL SUPER-CHARGED PROGRAM (WHICH WE DO NOT RECOMMEND) SUGGEST PLAYING DOWN QUALITATIVE IMPLICATIONS OF "DELEGATION" LABEL FOR TOMOV AND SLAVKOV. FYI: FROM WHAT SLAVKOV HAS SAID, HE DOES NOT WANT NOR EXPECT A HIGHLY STRUCTURED, TOTALLY SCHEDULED PROGRAM IN US.

3. UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S RELUCTANCE TO TIE IV PROGRAM TO RECIPROCAL VISITS BY AMERICANS. EMBASSY AGREES THAT USG SHOULD RETAIN INITIATIVE IN DETERMINING FIELDS IN WHICH DELEGATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO BULGARIA AND CERTAINLY MUST NOMINATE INDIVIDUALS.

4. HOWEVER, EMBASSY WELCOMES BULGARIAN OFFER TO RECEIVE AND PAY LOCAL COSTS OF US "DELEGATION" WHICH TOMOV/SLAVKOV VISIT SEEMS TO HAVE GENERATED. VISIT TO BULGARIA BY TWO OR
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THREE AMERICAN TV PROFESSIONALS FROM DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF

THE MEDIUM--PRODUCTION, TV NEWS COMMENTARY, TECHNICAL/
ENGINEERING FOR EXAMPLE--TO BE PROGRAMMED AS GUESTS OF THE
COMMITTEE FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION WOULD BE EXTREMELY
EFFECTIVE IN HELPING THE POST MAINTAIN AND EXPAND ITS DIALOGUE
WITH BULGARIAN MEDIA.
HERZ

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